

TO: LTG DONALD CAMPBELL  
COL MARK FREITAG MSgt 4M-12  
MINUTES OF THE FORT HOOD RETIREE COUNCIL MEETING

1. The 12 April 2012 meeting of the Fort Hood Retiree Council convened at 1200 hours at the AAFES Exchange HQ conference room, Fort Hood Texas.

2. Membership Attendance:

a. Members Present:

GEN (Ret) Griffin, Chairman  
CSM (Ret) Minosky, Co-Chairman  
COL (Ret) Oliver Jr., Assoc. Member  
COL (Ret) Portmann, Member  
COL (Ret) Somera, Jr. Member  
COL (Ret) Gauer, Member  
LTC (Ret) Woodward, Member  
LTC (Ret) Christ, Member  
LTC (Ret) MacMillan

CW3 (Ret) Hanger, Member  
CSM (Ret) Kitterman, Member  
SGM (Ret) Lopez, Member  
1SG (Ret) Fisher, Member  
MSG (Ret) Wood, Member  
SFC (Ret) Evans-Quickley, Member  
SCPO (Ret) Lubasky, Member  
Mrs. Greathouse, (Widow) Member

b. Members Absent:

MG (Ret) Meyer, Assoc. Member  
LTC (Ret) Hilliard, Member  
CSM (Ret) King, Jr. Member  
CSM (Ret) Small, Member

3. The Co-Chairman, GEN (Ret) Griffin called the meeting to order and welcomed the council. Guests for the meeting included Ms. Cathy Orona, Clear Creek Main Exchange Manager, and Mrs. Marlean Druce, Installation Adjutant General.

- GEN (Ret) Griffin invited each council member to introduce themselves and tell a little bit about themselves including what retiree organizations they belong. He also introduced the newest member of the board, LTC (Ret) B.J. MacMillan.
- GEN (Ret) Griffin reviewed the mission of the Retiree Council. He explained that the council is to bring issues to meetings to be resolved. The council has two groups to represent; the retirees and their Families and the command group.
- GEN (Ret) Griffin also opened a discussion of whether or not the council meetings are closed or open. He stated that they are open and anyone can attend.

4. Topics of discussion for this meeting:

- Mrs. Druce thanked the council for getting the Retirement Day funding. She stated that it would not have been successful without our support.
- A question about AAFES was asked regarding price matching. Mrs. Orona stated first of all that the retirees are our strongest customers. She said they will match the price on items but the problem comes in with the different models.



She stated that their goal now is to have Good Customer Service. She said competition is stiff with places like Wal-Mart so AAFES is trying to corner the market with good customer service. She also said that anytime someone has a problem to contact a manager.

- COL (Ret) Somera said congratulations to AAFES and thanked them for making allowances for handicap patrons.
- Another item brought up was having an AFFES committee where different representatives can attend to resolve issues. From this discussion a **task** was given to the AAFES representative to look into creating a committee to look at issues where other organizations on post can attend.
- COL (Ret) Gauer stated that AUSA provides money for the events and is more than willing to assist. He asked if AAFES could return the use of coupons in AUSA publications.

5. Individual Council Member Updates:

- ✓ • Adjutant General Update. Mrs. Druce stated that she may have a permanent location for the council meetings because she will soon have a new conference room in the Soldier Family Center building 36051. She again thanked everyone for helping with the funding of Retiree Day. Due to reductions in staff in the ID card section the walk-in time doubles. There is an appointment system which is better to use. Just Google Fort Hood ID card to find the site and make an appointment. Plan ahead; ID cards can be made 90 days in advance of the expiration date. She asked for help to get the word out. Several members stated they can help. She will email the information to those members.
- Health Care Advisory Council Update. COL (Ret) Portmann stated that medical translation is now available. He told the council about customer satisfaction surveys that are sent to patients when they are seen at one of the clinics on post. The surveys are sent by mail to the person who was seen at the clinic. The surveys do affect Army providers pay so please send them in. The hospital does have a Health Care Advisor Council. Med-Life has taken over the active duty dental program. Security has been beefed up at all facilities. The nurses advice line has reduced visits to the ER. There are educational videos in waiting rooms. Darnall has had a staff increase due to the number of soldiers returning from deployments. Copperas Cove clinic is open to some retirees but the Harker Heights has not opened to retirees yet.
- Volunteer Activities. LTC (Ret) Woodward gave an update on volunteer opportunities and upcoming activities on post. Camp Mabry on April 21-




22, from 8-5 for their open house and air show. There is also a short notice for trash off volunteers tomorrow.

- Commissary Council Update. CW3 (Ret) Hanger stated that the new manager for the Clear Creek Commissary is Mrs. Funderbrock. There will be a case lot sale at the Clear Creek Commissary on May 3rd to the 5th and a new Farmer's Market July 13-15. Warrior Way Commissary is being renovated and is going to be one of the nicest and best organized facilities. They will have a case lot sale 1-3 June. Due to finances, vendors have been stocking shelves and are more friendly now. SFC (Ret) Evans-Quickley asked why the commissary is throwing away so much food. She specifically mentioned the roasted chicken at the end of the day. She asked why it couldn't be donated to the FRG or local Food Banks. A **task** was directed to the Commissary representative to find out if this could be done.
- Retirement Services. Mrs. Bedgood reported the following upcoming events: Memorial Day Ceremony will be held at 9am on the 28th of May. Invitations are forthcoming. May 21st will be a Vietnam Veteran's Welcome Home Day. They are still looking for a guest speaker for Retiree Day.

6. Closing Remarks were made by GEN (Ret) Griffin and the meeting was adjourned.

7. The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for Thursday, 12 July 2012(T), Location: TBD

8. IF there are issues you'd like us to address, please let me know.

  
GEN (Ret) BENJAMIN S. GRIFFIN  
Co-Chairman

Approved/Disapproved

JOSEPH M. MARTIN  
Colonel, GS  
Chief of Staff

